

See Our Progress

My school was on the news last week. We had made a big change in our community. We had planted a big garden where there had been a vacant lot.

I learned a lot about television news. First, our principal called the TV station. She told them what we were doing. She talked with a producer. That is a person who sends reporters to do stories.

The producer checked with the director. He said there were lots of stories like this, so he wanted to know what was special about our garden.

The principal explained that we had made a prairie garden. She told how we had gone on the Internet to learn about the prairie. Then we had gone to a prairie and gotten seeds. We got the seeds from the plants. Then we planted them. We did not water the garden, but we did weed it. We let nature water it with rain because that was how prairies grew in the past. We sent a picture of the garden. In the picture the grass was so high it was taller than the fourth grade students.

The director thought this was interesting. It was not just a garden. It was a history lesson. It was a science lesson, too. So they sent a reporter. A camera man came, too.

They interviewed the principal. They asked questions about the garden. Then they interviewed us. We told what we had learned. They interviewed a person on the street, too. They asked what he thought about the garden.

They were at our school for two hours. We were excited. Then that night we watched the news. There we were. They told our story. It was only two minutes long. But it was us. We were famous.

CCSSR1: Read closely to determine what the text says explicitly and to make logical inferences from it; cite specific textual evidence when writing or speaking to support conclusions drawn from the text.

These are questions you can ask and answer about any story. Write your answers on another page.

1. Sequence: Which event happened first? Which happened last?
2. Character Traits: Name one character. What is one trait you infer that character has? Explain why you think that.
3. Motive: What is something that person does? Why do you think that person does that?
4. Summarize: Summarize the story in four sentences. Tell about the characters and what they do.
5. Main Idea: What do you think is the main idea of the story? Why?